

UP 81

(MISSILES)

SENATE INVESTIGATORS HEARD A SECRET REPORT TODAY ON INFORMATION GLEANED BY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ABOUT SOVIET STRENGTH.

ALLEN W. DULLES, DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY, AND HIS AIDES TESTIFIED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS BEFORE THE SENATE PREPAREDNESS SUBCOMMITTEE INVESTIGATING U.S. MISSILE AND SATELLITE PROGRAMS.

DURING A 15-MINUTE BREAK SHORTLY BEFORE NOON, SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER LYNDON B. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE, TOLD REPORTERS THE SENATORS "RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF VERY IMPORTANT AND VERY VALUABLE INFORMATION ON THE DEFENSES OF THIS NATION."

HE DOUBTED THAT EVEN A CENSORED RECORD OF THE TESTIMONY WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC.

DULLES SPENT ABOUT TWO HOURS AT A CLOSED SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE LATE YESTERDAY AND RETURNED TODAY FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE TO FOUR HOURS. THE COMMITTEE EXPECTED TO RESUME ITS PUBLIC HEARINGS WITH SECRETARY OF DEFENSE MCELROY THIS AFTERNOON.

11/27 --JR1227P

UP 406

AND 3 MISSILES (UP81)

THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY TOLD SENATORS TODAY WITH ITS SECRET APPRAISAL OF SOVIET STRENGTH AND MISSILE DEVELOPMENT.

"THERE IS LITTLE COMFORT TO BE GAINED FROM REALIZING WHAT THE FACTS ARE ABOUT THE ADVANCES THE SOVIET UNION HAS MADE IN CERTAIN RESPECTS," SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JOHNSON SAID AFTER DULLES'S SECRET BRIEFING ~~TO SENATORS~~ ~~AND~~ ~~THE~~ ~~COMMITTEE~~.

"VERY UNPLEASANT LISTENING," COMMENTED SEN. STYLES BRIDGES (R-N.H.).

SEN. STUART SYMINGTON (R-MO.) SAID DULLES'S BRIEFING ADDED UP TO A "SAD AND SHOCKING STORY. THE SOONER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT IT, THE BETTER," HE SAID.

SEN. RALPH E. FLANDERS (R-VT.) SAID HE WAS "JUST A LITTLE DISTURBED, BUT WE SUSPECTED IT."

SEN. ESTES KEFAUVER (D-TENN.) SAID THE COMMITTEE WAS GIVEN "A RATHER DREARY PICTURE BUT IT'S NOT HOPELESS."

"THIS IS NO TIME FOR EITHER A SIESTA OR HYSTERIA," JOHNSON TOLD REPORTERS. "AMERICA IS FACED WITH A GREAT CHALLENGE. I HAVE NO DOUBT ABOUT OUR WILLINGNESS OR OUR ABILITY TO MEET IT."

11/27 -- TSL:SP

... MISSILES

JOHNSON AND HIS CHIEF AIDES SPENT ABOUT SIX HOURS BEHIND THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S CLOSED DOORS YESTERDAY AND TODAY.

JOHNSON LATER TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THIS MORNING'S BRIEFING INCLUDED AN "UP-TO-THE-MINUTE" REVIEW OF SOVIET PROGRESS IN THE SHORTER RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILES."

THE CIA WITNESSES SAID THEY HAD ESTIMATED "SOME TIME AGO" THAT RUSSIA WOULD HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHING AN EARTH SATELLITE IN 1957 BY USING A MISSILE ROCKET.

"THE BRIEFING INDICATED THAT THE SOVIET ATOMIC ENERGY PROGRAM WAS MAKING STEADY PROGRESS WITH THE VIEW TO PROVIDING NUCLEAR WARHEADS FOR THEIR FAMILY OF MISSILES, AS WELL AS OTHER NUCLEAR WEAPONS," JOHNSON SAID.

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ADMISSIONS

THE SUBCOMMITTEE WAS GIVEN SECRET FIGURES ON RUSSIAN BOMBERS AND SUBMARINE STRENGTH, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO THEIR ROLE AS THE MAJOR FORCES IN BEING WHICH COULD POSE A THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES, AT LEAST UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEIR ICBM'S BECOME OPERATIONAL, JOHNSON SAID.

THE CHAIRMAN INDICATED THAT THE SUBCOMMITTEE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT SOME OF THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES.

AT ONE POINT, HE SAID "WE RECEIVED A RATHER THOROUGH AND I TRUST ACCURATE PICTURE," THE SUBCOMMITTEE ALSO REVIEWED THE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF CIA AS TO "THE RELATIVE FIRMNESS OF VARIOUS CRITICAL ESTIMATES OF SOVIET STRENGTH ... AND THE VALIDITY OF THEM, HE SAID.

"THROUGH A HEALTHY AND CLEAR-CUT EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST TO TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT CERTAIN PROCEDURES, AT THE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE CIA AND THE SERVICES AND THE CONGRESS WITH A VIEW OF ATTAINING MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY," HE SAID.

BRIDGES TOLD REPORTERS THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE CIA TESTIMONY THE SENATE COMMITTEE WAS "CERTAINLY JUSTIFIED" IN UNDERTAKING ITS INVESTIGATION.

HE PREDICTED THAT ANY COMPLACENCY FELT BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD BE SHOCKED OUT OF THEM WHEN THE COMMITTEE DISCLOSES WHATEVER IT CAN MAKE PUBLIC OUT OF THE CIA REPORT.

11/27 -- L7204P